

I am writing to support SBC Ohio's request to provide long distance service in the Ohio market. Ohio residents and businesses deserve the benefit of full telephone competition.

Evidence from other states demonstrates that customers gain more choice, greater value and convenience when there is increased competition in the local and long distance market. The residents and businesses in columbus want convenience and competitive prices in the telecommunications market. I urge you to act favorably upon SBC Ohio's application

Sincerely yours

Ellen P. Barney

Vice President

Columbus Urban Growth Corporation